

Combinatorial proofs for basic properties of Ozsváth-Szabó invariant

Shinya Ichida

March 21, 2009

Abstract

Sarkar and Wang have given a combinatorial algorithm for computing Heegaard Floer homology and Plamenevskaya has improved their method to compute Ozsváth-Szabó invariant.

In this paper, applying the combinatorial method to stabilizations of an open book, we prove basic properties of Ozsváth-Szabó invariant.

1 Introduction

Let (Y, ξ) be a 3-dimensional contact manifold. (Y, ξ) is called *overtwisted*, if (Y, ξ) has an embedded disk D such that ∂D is tangent to ξ and the framing of ∂D given by ξ coincides with the framing given by D . (Y, ξ) is called *tight*, if it is not overtwisted. Eliashberg has classified overtwisted contact structures by using homotopy theory in [1]. However, tight contact structures have not been classified completely.

One of basic theorems in 3-dimensional contact topology is Giroux's correspondence. It says that there exists a one-to-one correspondence between isotopy equivalence classes of contact structures and positive stably equivalence classes of open books.

Using Giroux's correspondence, Ozsváth and Szabó have defined an invariant of isotopy classes of contact structures in [9]. The invariant is an element of Heegaard Floer homology of the ambient manifold. It is useful for classifying contact structures up to isotopy. For example, if the contact structure is overtwisted, then their invariant vanishes. In particular, it is also useful for classifying tight contact structures.

Sarkar and Wang have given a combinatorial algorithm for computing Heegaard Floer homology in [12] and Plamenevskaya has improved their method to compute Ozsváth-Szabó invariant in [11].

In this paper, after reviewing their results, applying the combinatorial method to stabilizations of an open book, we prove the following two basic properties of Ozsváth-Szabó invariant.

Let ξ be a contact structure on a 3-manifold, and $c(\xi)$ be the Ozsváth-Szabó invariant of ξ .

- $c(\xi)$ vanishes, if ξ is compatible with a negative stabilization of any open book.
- Positive stabilization preserves $c(\xi)$.

This paper also includes an easier computation of the contact invariant of the example in [11].

This paper is the author's master's thesis. I would like to thank my supervisor, Masaaki Ue. I would also like to thank Ryokichi Tanaka. I could not write this paper without their advice and encouragement.

2 Giroux's correspondence

In this section, we review Giroux's correspondence theorem.

An *open book* is a pair (S, h) , where S is the *page*, which is an oriented surface with non-empty boundary, and h is the *monodromy*, which is an orientation preserving self-diffeomorphism of S which coincides with the identity map on ∂S . We call two open books (S_1, h_1) and (S_2, h_2) are equivalent, if S_1 equals S_2 and h_1 is isotopic to $g \circ h_2 \circ g^{-1}$ relative ∂S , where g is an orientation preserving self-diffeomorphism of S .

Let (Y, ξ) be a contact 3-manifold. (Y, ξ) and an open book (S, h) are called compatible, if Y is diffeomorphic to $S \times [0, 1] / \sim$, where the equivalence relation \sim is given by

$$\begin{aligned} (x, 1) &\sim (h(x), 0), & x &\in S \\ (x, t) &\sim (x, t'), & x &\in \partial S, t, t' \in [0, 1] \end{aligned}$$

and the following conditions hold.

- ∂S is a transverse link, that is, its nonzero tangent vector is transverse to ξ ,
- $d\alpha$ is a volume form on S , where α is a contact form of ξ ,
- the orientation of ∂S which satisfies $\alpha > 0$ coincides with the boundary orientation induced by the surface orientation defined by $d\alpha$.

For an open book (S, h) , its *positive(negative) stabilization* is an open book (S', h') such that

- S' is a surface obtained from S by attaching a 1-handle to S ,
- h' is a composition map $h' = t_\gamma \circ h$, where
- γ is a simple closed curve in S' which goes over the 1-handle once, and t_γ is the positive(negative) Dehn twist around it.

This operation does not change the ambient manifold Y . Note that a positive(negative) stabilization does depend on γ .

We call two open books (S_1, h_1) and (S_2, h_2) are positive stably equivalent, if a finitely many positive stabilizations of (S_1, h_1) is equivalent to a finitely many positive stabilizations of (S_2, h_2) .

Giroux has shown the following theorem in [3].

Theorem 2.1. *Let (Y, ξ) be a 3-dimensional contact manifold. Then there exists a unique compatible open book (S, h) up to positive stably equivalence relation. Conversely, let (S, h) be an open book. Then there exists a unique compatible contact manifold (Y, ξ) up to isotopy. In addition, this correspondence is one-to-one.*

Remark 2.2. *A positive stabilization does not change the compatible contact structure. However, this is not the case for a negative stabilization. It is known that a contact structure compatible with a negative stabilization of any open book is overtwisted, even if the original contact structure is tight.*

3 Hat Heegaard Floer homology

In this section, we review the definition of hat Heegaard Floer homology, following [12].

Originally, hat Heegaard Floer homology \widehat{HF} of a 3-manifold is defined by using the moduli space of holomorphic representations of Whitney disks in the symmetric product of Σ , which is a Heegaard surface for a Heegaard decomposition of the 3-manifold (see [8] and the review of the construction in [10]). In this paper, however, we use cylindrical reformulation of \widehat{HF} by Lipshitz in [6].

Let Y be a closed oriented 3-manifold and $Y = H_1 \cup_{\Sigma} H_2$ be its Heegaard decomposition. $\Sigma = \partial H_1 = \partial H_2$ is oriented as the boundary of H_1 .

Let g be the genus of Σ . Then, Y has a handle decomposition having one 0-handle, g 1-handles, g 2-handles, and one 3-handle. We call the cocores of the 1-handles $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_g$ and the attaching circles of the 2-handles $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_g$. Then, we get a tuple $(\Sigma, \alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_g), \beta = (\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_g))$ called a *Heegaard diagram*.

We fix a point $z_0 \in \Sigma \setminus (\bigcup \alpha_i) \setminus (\bigcup \beta_j)$ called a *basepoint*. The tuple $(\Sigma, \alpha, \beta, z_0)$ is called a *pointed Heegaard diagram*.

Given a pointed Heegaard diagram $(\Sigma, \alpha, \beta, z_0)$, the chain complex \widehat{CF} is a free abelian group with $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ -coefficients whose generators are formal sums of g distinct points in Σ , $\mathbf{x} = x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_g$, such that each α -curve contains some x_i and each β -curve contains some x_j . That is, there exist $\sigma, \tau \in S_g$ such that $\alpha_{\sigma(i)} \cap \beta_{\tau(i)}$ includes x_i for each $i = 1, 2, \dots, g$. A connected component of $\Sigma \setminus (\alpha \cup \beta)$ is called a *region*. The region containing z_0 is called the *pointed region*. A formal sum of regions with integer coefficients is called a *2-chain*. For a 2-chain $\phi = a_1 D_1 + a_2 D_2 + \dots + a_r D_r$, $\partial(\partial(\phi)|_{\alpha})$ is defined by

$$\partial(\partial(\phi)|_{\alpha}) = a_1 \partial(\partial(D_1)|_{\alpha}) + a_2 \partial(\partial(D_2)|_{\alpha}) + \dots + a_r \partial(\partial(D_r)|_{\alpha}),$$

where $\partial(\partial(D)|_\alpha)$ is a formal sum of the endpoints of α -edges of D with signature which is induced by the orientation of Σ . Given two generators \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} of \widehat{CF} , we define $\pi_2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ to be the collection of all 2-chains ϕ such that $\partial(\partial(\phi)|_\alpha) = \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}$. Such 2-chains are called *domains* connecting \mathbf{x} to \mathbf{y} . Given $p \in \Sigma \setminus (\alpha \cup \beta)$ and 2-chain ϕ , let $n_p(\phi)$ be the coefficient of the region containing p in ϕ . A domain ϕ is *positive*, if $n_p(\phi) \geq 0$ for every point p in $\Sigma \setminus (\alpha \cup \beta)$. We define $\pi_2^0(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \{\phi \in \pi_2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}); n_{z_0}(\phi) = 0\}$. A pointed Heegaard diagram is *admissible*, if any positive domain $\phi \in \pi_2^0(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x})$ is trivial, for every generator \mathbf{x} . It is known that there exists an admissible pointed Heegaard diagram for any Y . Hence, we assume that $(\Sigma, \alpha, \beta, z_0)$ is admissible.

For a domain ϕ and generator $\mathbf{x} = x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_g$, $\mu_{x_i}(\phi)$ is defined to be the average of the coefficients of the four regions around x_i in ϕ . The *point measure* $\mu_{\mathbf{x}}(\phi)$ is defined as $\sum \mu_{x_i}(\phi)$.

Any region has even vertices, because each of its vertices is intersection point between some α -curve and some β -curve. Hence the boundary of the region consists of α -edges and β -edges, which are placed alternately. If a region D is a $2n$ -gon, then we define $e(D) = 1 - \frac{n}{2}$, and for a domain $\phi = \sum a_i D_i$, its *Euler measure* $e(\phi)$ is defined by $e(\phi) = \sum a_i e(D_i)$.

Let $\mathcal{M}(\phi)$ be the moduli space of holomorphic representatives of $\phi \in \pi_2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$, and $\mu(\phi)$ be the *Maslov index* of ϕ , which is an expected dimension of $\mathcal{M}(\phi)$.

Proposition 3.1 (Lipshitz [6]). *For a domain $\phi \in \pi_2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$, the Maslov index of ϕ is given by*

$$\mu(\phi) = e(\phi) + \mu_{\mathbf{x}}(\phi) + \mu_{\mathbf{y}}(\phi).$$

If ϕ is non-trivial, $\mathcal{M}(\phi)$ admits a free \mathbb{R} action. If $\mu(\phi) = 1$, $\mathcal{M}(\phi)/\mathbb{R}$ is a zero-dimensional manifold, so we define its *count function* $c(\phi)$ to be the number of points in $\mathcal{M}(\phi)/\mathbb{R}$, counted modulo 2.

After all, the boundary map of the chain complex \widehat{CF} is given by

$$\hat{\partial}\mathbf{x} = \sum_{\mathbf{y}} \sum_{\substack{\phi \in \pi_2^0(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \\ \mu(\phi)=1}} c(\phi)\mathbf{y},$$

for every generator \mathbf{x} . If the pointed Heegaard diagram is admissible, the right hand side is a finite sum. This map satisfies $\hat{\partial} \circ \hat{\partial} = 0$.

Theorem 3.2 (Lipshitz [6]). *For a 3-manifold Y , the homology of the chain complex $(\widehat{CF}, \hat{\partial})$ is isomorphic to Ozsváth-Szabó Heegaard Floer homology $\widehat{HF}(Y)$, which is an invariant for the 3-manifold Y .*

Note that the only non-combinatorial part of this formulation is the count function $c(\phi)$.

4 A combinatorial description of Heegaard Floer homology and Ozsváth-Szabó contact invariant

In this section, we review a combinatorial description of Heegaard Floer homology and Ozsváth-Szabó contact invariant.

At first, we review a combinatorial description of Heegaard Floer homology by Sarkar and Wang, in [12].

Definition 4.1. *A pointed Heegaard diagram $(\Sigma, \alpha, \beta, z_0)$ is nice, if any region not containing z_0 is either a bigon or a square.*

It is known that a nice pointed Heegaard diagram is admissible ([7]).

Definition 4.2. *Let $(\Sigma, \alpha, \beta, z_0)$ be a nice pointed Heegaard diagram.*

A domain $\phi \in \pi_2^0(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ is an empty embedded $2n$ -gon, if it satisfies the following conditions.

- *The coefficient of each region in ϕ is 0 or 1.*
- *The closure of ϕ is topologically an embedded disk with $2n$ vertices on its boundary for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$, such that $\mu_v(\phi) = \frac{1}{4}$ for each vertex v .*
- *The closure of ϕ does not contain any x_i or y_i in its interior, where $\mathbf{x} = \sum x_i$ and $\mathbf{y} = \sum y_i$.*

Theorem 4.3 (Sarkar, Wang [12]). *Let $(\Sigma, \alpha, \beta, z_0)$ be a nice pointed Heegaard diagram.*

1. *If $\phi \in \pi_2^0(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ is an empty embedded bigon or square, then $\mu(\phi) = 1$.*
2. *Let ϕ be a domain such that $\mu(\phi) = 1$, then $c(\phi) = 1$ if and only if ϕ is either an empty embedded bigon or square.*

Hence, the boundary map $\hat{\partial}: \widehat{CF} \rightarrow \widehat{CF}$ can be computed as

$$\hat{\partial}\mathbf{x} = \sum_{\mathbf{y}} \sum_{\substack{\phi \in \pi_2^0(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \\ \phi \text{ is an empty embedded} \\ \text{bigon or square}}} \mathbf{y},$$

for a nice diagram.

Theorem 4.4 (Sarkar, Wang [12]). *For any admissible pointed Heegaard diagram $(\Sigma, \alpha, \beta, z_0)$, we can get a nice diagram by finite isotopies of α and handle slides among α . We can also get a nice diagram by finite isotopies of β and handle slides among β .*

The above two theorems show that hat Heegaard Floer homology of any 3-manifold can be computed combinatorially.

Next, we describe a construction of Ozsváth-Szabó invariant by Honda, Kazez, and Matić, in [5].

Let (Y, ξ) be a contact 3-manifold and (S, h) be a compatible open book. So Y is diffeomorphic to $S \times [0, 1]/\sim$, where the equivalence relation \sim is defined as in section 2. Then, we get a Heegaard decomposition

$$Y = H_1 \cup H_2$$

with $H_1 = S \times [0, 1/2]/\sim$, $H_2 = S \times [1/2, 1]/\sim$.

There is a construction of the Heegaard diagram corresponding to the decomposition. Σ denotes $\partial H_1 = S_{1/2} \cup -S_0$, where $S_0 = S \times \{0\}$, $S_{1/2} = S \times \{1/2\}$, and α - and β - curves are defined as follows.

Let $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$, called a *basis* for S , be a collection of disjoint properly embedded arcs in S such that $S \setminus (\bigcup a_i)$ is a single polygon. Then, b_i is determined as an arc which is isotopic to a_i by a small isotopy so that the following conditions hold.

- The endpoints of a_i is isotoped along ∂S , in the direction induced by the orientation of S .
- a_i and b_i intersect transversely at only one point in the interior of S .
- If we orient a_i , and b_i is given the orientation induced from the isotopy, then the sign of the intersection $a_i \cap b_i$ is positive.

For examples of such $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$ and $\{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n\}$, see figures in section 5. Then, the curves $\alpha_i = a_i \times \{1/2\} \cup a_i \times \{0\}$ are cocores of 1-handles and $\beta_i = b_i \times \{1/2\} \cup h(b_i) \times \{0\}$ are attaching circles of 2-handles. Hence, we can consider $\boldsymbol{\alpha} = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$ and $\boldsymbol{\beta} = (\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_n)$ as α - and β - curves in the Heegaard diagram.

In addition, the basepoint z_0 is placed on $S_{1/2}$ and is not in any thin strips between $a_i \times \{1/2\}$ and $b_i \times \{1/2\}$.

After all, we get the pointed Heegaard diagram $(\Sigma, \boldsymbol{\alpha}, \boldsymbol{\beta}, z_0)$ given by the open book. This diagram depends on a monodromy h and a basis for S . It is known that this diagram is admissible ([5]).

Ozsváth-Szabó invariant is an element of $\widehat{HF}(-Y)$, so we consider $-Y$, whose diagram corresponding to $-Y = H_2 \cup_{\Sigma} H_1$ is given by $(\Sigma, \boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\alpha}, z_0)$, interchanging the roles of the α - and β - curves.

Let c_i be the intersection point between $a_i \times \{1/2\}$ and $b_i \times \{1/2\}$, for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. A formal sum $\mathbf{c} = c_1 + c_2 + \dots + c_n$ is a generator of $\widehat{CF}(\Sigma, \boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\alpha}, z_0)$.

Theorem 4.5 (Honda, Kazez, Matić [5]). *\mathbf{c} is a cycle, which represents Ozsváth-Szabó invariant $c(\xi)$ in $\widehat{HF}(-Y)$.*

Now, as an application of Sakar-Wang algorithm, we have the following theorem of Plamenevskaya.

Theorem 4.6 (Plamenevskaya [11]). *For any open book (S, h) and any basis $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$ for S , there exists an orientation preserving diffeomorphism $\phi: S \rightarrow S$ which is isotopic to id_S relative ∂S such that the open book $(S, \phi \circ h)$, which is equivalent to (S, h) , and the basis $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$ give a nice pointed Heegaard diagram.*

We can get a combinatorial method of computing Ozsváth-Szabó invariant by combining theorem 4.5 and 4.6.

Sketch of proof of theorem 4.6. Let $(\Sigma, \alpha, \beta, z_0)$ be the diagram given by (S, h) and the basis $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$. We can get a nice diagram by moving β -curves of the original diagram by Sakar-Wang algorithm. If the moves include only isotopies in $S_0 \subset \Sigma$, we prove the theorem.

There are two steps in Sakar-Wang algorithm. Firstly, we eliminate non-disk regions, then, make all but the pointed region bigons or squares.

Step.1 Eliminating the non-disk regions except the pointed region.

Since $\Sigma \setminus \alpha$ is a punctured sphere, each non-disk region is a punctured sphere with more than one boundary components. In addition, each boundary component dose contain both α -edges and β -edges, because every α_i intersects β_i in our diagram.

So, if D is a non-disk region, then we can take disjoint, properly embedded arcs l_1, l_2, \dots, l_k in D , such that they are contained in S_0 and each l_i connects an α -curve to a β -curve, so that $D \setminus l_1 \setminus \dots \setminus l_k$ is a polygon.

Then, we make isotopies, called finger moves, by pushing β -curves along l_i as in Figure 1. They are isotopies in S_0 which kill the non-disk regions.

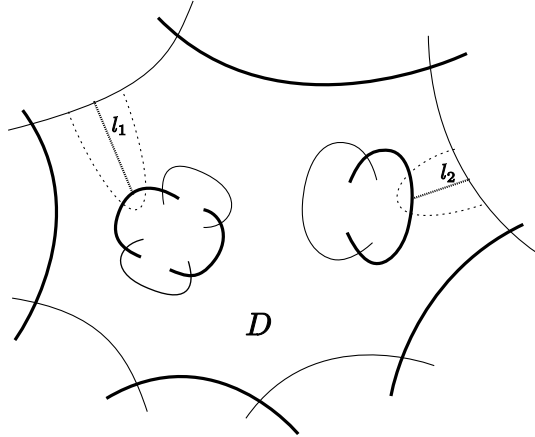


Figure 1: Eliminating a non-disk region D . Here, thick solid arcs denote α -curves and thin solid arcs denote β -curves. The same notation will be used in Figure 2.

Step.2 Making all but the pointed region bigons or squares.

Let D_0 denote the pointed region. We define the *distance* $d(D)$ of a region D to be the smallest number of intersection points between β -curves and an arc connecting z_0 to an interior point of D in $\Sigma \setminus \alpha$.

We say a region D is *bad*, if D is not pointed, and is not a bigon nor a square region. We take a bad region D with the largest distance $d(D)$, and replace it by square regions. One of the regions having a common β -edge with D has distance $d(D) - 1$ by definition. Let D_* be such a region and b_* be its common β -edge with D .

We make a finger move of b_* into an adjacent region which has a common α -edge with D as in Figure 2 so that D is replaced by two regions of fewer edges. The finger move is continued until the finger reaches either a bigon, another bad

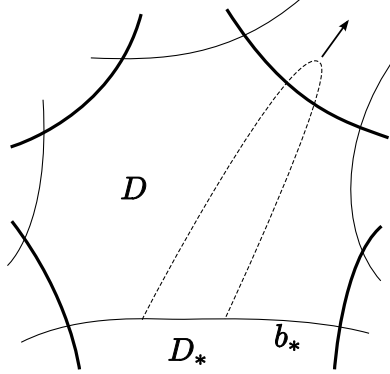


Figure 2: Killing a bad region.

region, or a region of smaller distance. Plamenevskaya shows that, by further finger moves, the finger reaches either a bigon, another bad region, or a region with distance $\leq d(D) - 1$. See [11, 12] for details of the finger moves. Then, we can reduce the number of edges in ∂D by the above procedure.

Repeat this operation inductively, and we get a nice diagram. \square

Let $(\Sigma, \beta, \alpha, z_0)$ be a nice diagram of $-Y$ and $\phi \in \pi_2^0(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ be an empty embedded bigon. $-x$ and y denote two vertices of ϕ , with the signature of the orientation induced by $\partial(\partial(\phi)|_\beta)$. Then, there are x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n in intersection points between α -curves and β -curves so that we can express $\mathbf{x} = x + x_2 + x_3 + \dots + x_n$ and $\mathbf{y} = y + x_2 + x_3 + \dots + x_n$. Such x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n , y , and x are called *trivial vertices*, a *positive vertex*, and a *negative vertex* of ϕ , respectively.

Similarly, when $\phi \in \pi_2^0(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ is an empty embedded square, and $-x, -x', y$, and y' denote four vertices of ϕ , there exist x_3, x_4, \dots, x_n in intersection points between α -curves and β -curves so that we have an expression $\mathbf{x} = x + x' + x_3 + x_4 + \dots + x_n$ and $\mathbf{y} = y + y' + x_3 + x_4 + \dots + x_n$. Such x_3, x_4, \dots, x_n , y, y' , and x, x' are also called trivial vertices, positive vertices, and negative vertices of ϕ , respectively.

The next lemma is useful for computing the boundary map $\hat{\partial}$.

Lemma 4.7. *Let $(\Sigma, \beta, \alpha, z_0)$ be a nice diagram of $-Y$ given by an open book.*

Then, c_i is not a negative vertex of any empty embedded bigon or square. Therefore, when there exists an empty embedded bigon or square ϕ in $\pi_2^0(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$, if a generator \mathbf{x} has a term c_i , \mathbf{y} also does.

In particular, for any generator \mathbf{x} , $\pi_2^0(\mathbf{c}, \mathbf{x})$ has no empty embedded bigons nor squares, where $\mathbf{c} = \sum c_i$. Hence, $\hat{\partial}\mathbf{c} = 0$ holds.

Proof. Let ϕ be an empty embedded bigon or square which has c_i as a non-trivial vertex. Then, ϕ contains a thin strip between $a_i \times \{1/2\}$ and $b_i \times \{1/2\}$. We orient $a_i \cap \partial\phi$ as the direction away from c_i . By the definition of b_i , ϕ is in the left side of a_i as in Figure 3. Therefore, c_i has positive signature. \square

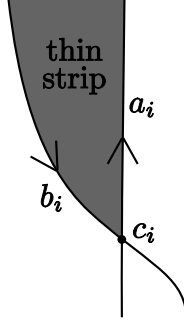


Figure 3: Position of a thin strip.

5 Examples of computing Ozsváth-Szabó invariant

In this section, we perform easier computation of the Ozsváth-Szabó invariant for the open book which is investigated by Plamenevskaya in [11].

Let S be a four punctured sphere, and a monodromy h be the composition of two maps $h = t_{\gamma_2} \circ t_{\gamma_1}$, where t_{γ_1} and t_{γ_2} are the positive Dehn twists around γ_1 and γ_2 , respectively, as in Figure 4. It is known that the contact structure compatible with this open book is isotopic to the standard tight contact structure on $S^1 \times S^2$. In fact, we can show, by combinatorial computation, that $c(\xi)$ is non-vanishing.

Plamenevskaya took arcs in Figure 5 as a basis $\{a_1, a_2, a_3\}$. The diagram given by her basis is shown by Figure 5, which has a non-disk region and a hexagon region. Figure 6 shows the nice diagram after applying Sarkar-Wang algorithm, which has 22 generators of \overline{CF} and 13 empty embedded bigons/squares. See [2] for details and computation.

In [2], Etgü and Ozbagci get a diagram having less generators and empty embedded bigons/squares by choosing a good basis $\{a_1, a_2, a_3\}$. Here, we take another basis $\{a_1, a_2, a_3\}$ as in Figure 7.

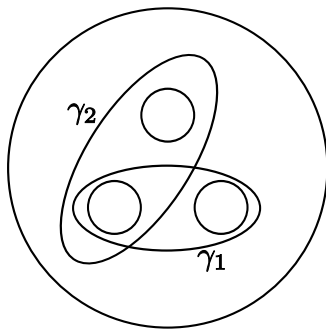


Figure 4: Simple closed curves which give the definition of the monodromy h .

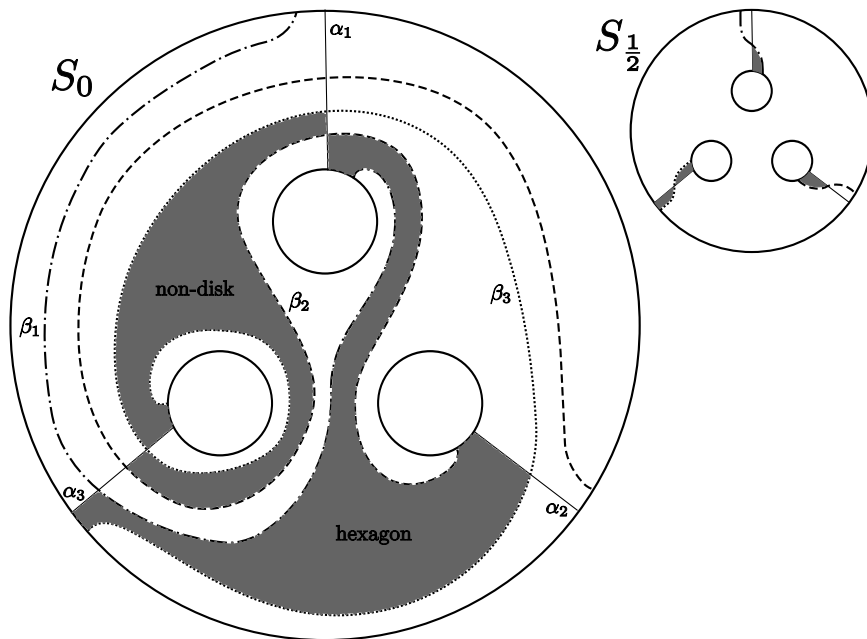


Figure 5: Plamenevskaya's basis and two bad regions.

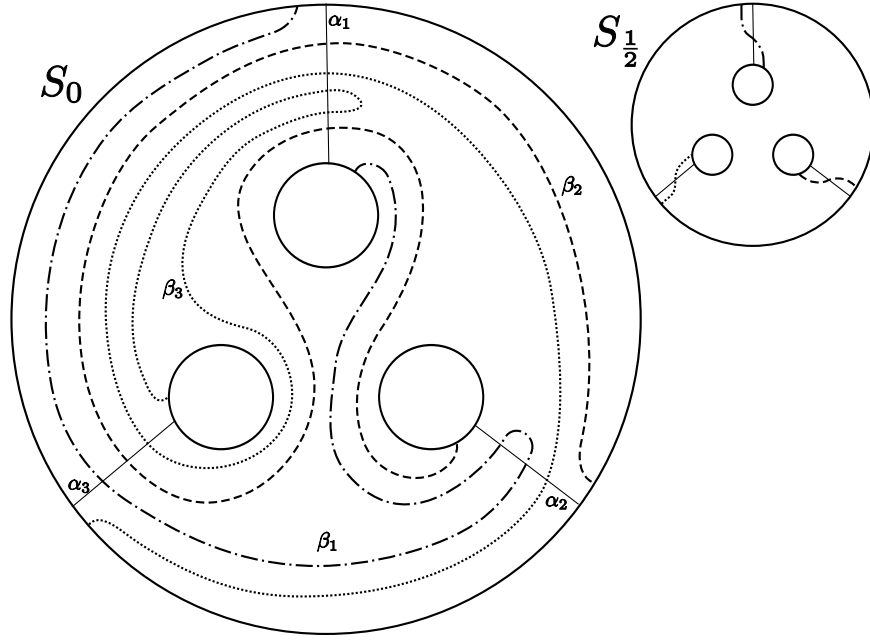


Figure 6: The nice diagram after applying Sarkar-Wang algorithm to the diagram in Figure 5.

In the corresponding diagram, α -curves and β -curves have intersection points as shown in Table 1. Each generator of \widehat{CF} corresponding to the above diagram has the term c_1 but does not contain any other terms included in α_1 , since β_1 intersects the α -curves only in one point c_1 , which is included in α_1 . Thus, \widehat{CF} has only 2 generators, $\mathbf{c} = c_1 + c_2 + c_3$ and $\mathbf{x} = c_1 + x + y$.

Moreover, there are only 2 empty embedded squares for this diagram, $\phi_1 = R_1 + R_2$ and $\phi_2 = R_3 + R_4$, both of which are in $\pi_2^0(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{c})$, because the other square domains have a vertex which is an intersection point between α_1 and β_2 , or α_1 and β_3 .

So, we have $\hat{\partial}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{c} + \mathbf{c} = 0$. Thus,

$$\widehat{HF}(S, h) = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}[\mathbf{c}] \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}[\mathbf{x}]$$

holds, and Ozsváth-Szabó invariant $c(\xi) = [\mathbf{c}]$ does not vanish.

6 Ozsváth-Szabó invariant of negative stabilizations

In this section, we show that the Ozsváth-Szabó invariant for a contact structure ξ vanishes, if ξ is compatible with a negative stabilization of an open book.

Table 1: The intersection points between α -curves and β -curves in Figure 7. The components of α_i -line and β_j -column mean intersection points between α_i and β_j .

	β_1	β_2	β_3
α_1	c_1	2 points	2 points
α_2	\emptyset	c_2	x
α_3	\emptyset	y	c_3

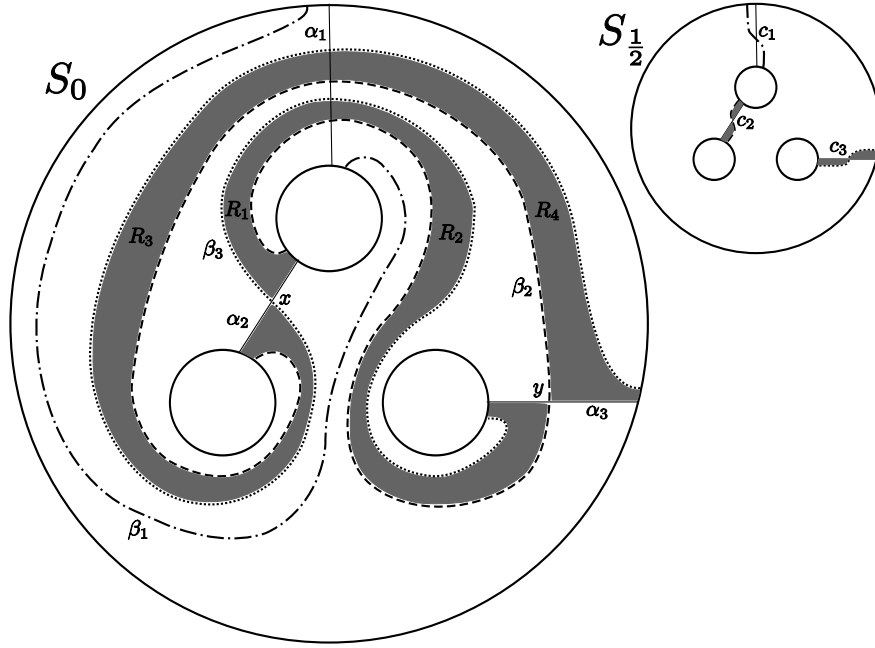


Figure 7: One of good bases $\{a_1, a_2, a_3\}$ and two empty embedded squares.

Let (S, h) be an open book and (S', h') be its negative stabilization, i.e., S' is a surface obtained by attaching a 1-handle to S and γ is a simple closed curve in S' which goes over the 1-handle once and h' is a composition map $h' = t_\gamma \circ h$, where t_γ is the negative Dehn twist around γ .

It is well-known that a contact structure which is compatible with (S', h') is overtwisted. For a proof, see [4], for example. So, the Ozsváth-Szabó invariant vanishes. We show this combinatorially.

First of all, we take a basis $\{a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n\}$ for S' , such that a_0 is in the 1-handle, which intersects γ at only one point, and $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$ is a basis for S which does not intersect γ .

In the diagram of (S', h') given by the above basis, $S'_{1/2}$ includes an intersection point c_0 between β_0 and α_0 , and S'_0 includes two intersection points x, y between β_0 and α_0 . Moreover, there are no intersection points between β_0 and the other α_i 's.

In Figure 8, R_0 is the pointed region, and R_1, R_2, R_3 , and R_4 are regions adjacent to R_0 . But R_3 and R_4 can be connected to R_0 by arcs near β_0 which are disjoint from α - and β -curves, because β_0 does not intersect α -curves except α_0 . Hence, R_3 and R_4 coincide with R_0 , and β_0 and bigon regions R_1, R_2 are surrounded with the pointed region.

Therefore, β_0 and the bigon regions R_1, R_2 remain unchanged in a new nice diagram, which is obtained by applying Sarkar-Wang algorithm to the original diagram.

Let $\mathbf{x} = x + c_1 + c_2 + \dots + c_n$, $\mathbf{y} = y + c_1 + c_2 + \dots + c_n$, and $\mathbf{c} = c_0 + c_1 + c_2 + \dots + c_n$ be the generators of \widehat{CF} corresponding to the new nice diagram.

Theorem 6.1. *We have*

$$\hat{\partial}\mathbf{x} = \hat{\partial}\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{c}.$$

Therefore, the Ozsváth-Szabó invariant vanishes.

Proof. By lemma 4.7, if there exists a generator \mathbf{x}' and an empty embedded bigon/square ϕ in $\pi_2^0(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$, then \mathbf{x}' can be expressed as $x' + c_1 + c_2 + \dots + c_n$, where x' is an intersection point between α_0 and β_0 , and ϕ is a bigon with two vertices, x' as a positive vertex and x as a negative vertex.

Now, there are only three intersection points c_0, x , and y between α_0 and β_0 . Clearly, there is no bigon whose vertices are x and y . On the other hand, R_1 is the only empty embedded bigon with vertices c_0 and x .

Therefore, $\hat{\partial}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{c}$

Similarly, we get $\hat{\partial}\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{c}$. □

The next theorem is Lemma 5.1.2 of [4].

Theorem 6.2. *If ξ is an overtwisted contact structure on Y , then there exists an open book (S, h) such that ξ is compatible with a negative stabilization of (S, h) .*

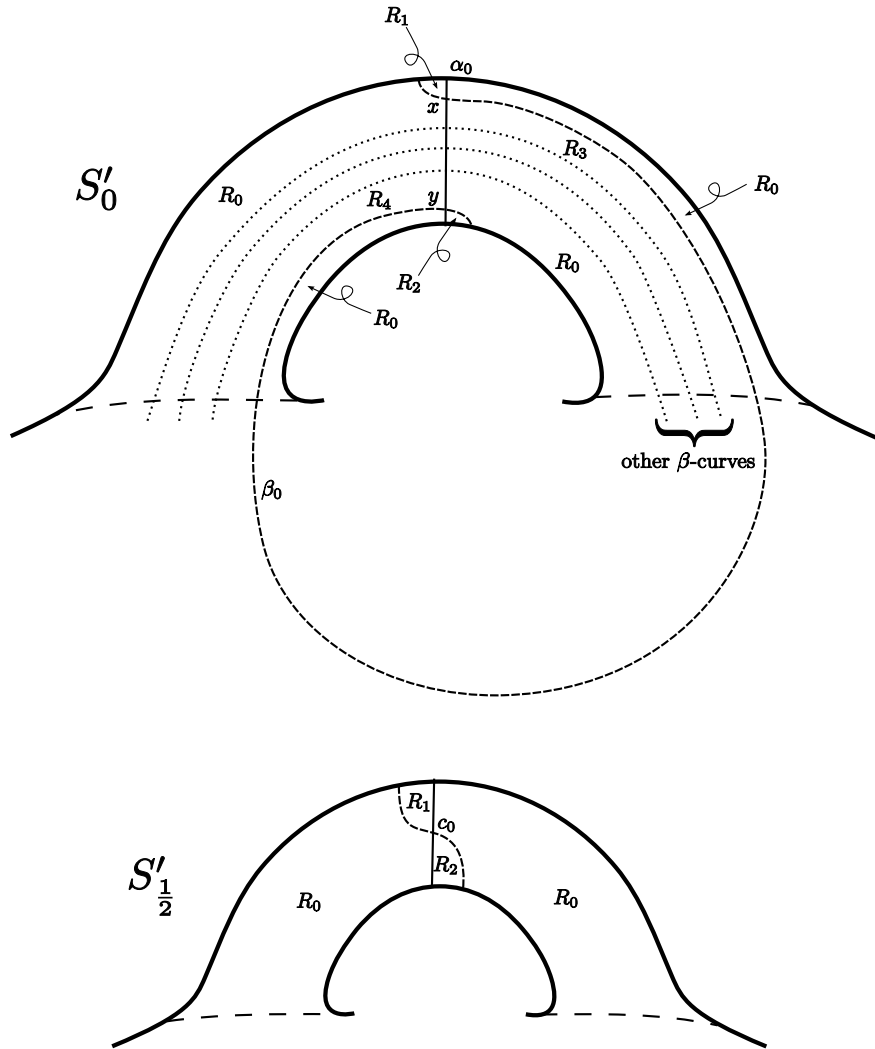


Figure 8: The situation around β_0 and the 1-handle of the negative stabilization.

By using this theorem, we get the following.

Corollary 6.3. *If ξ is an overtwisted contact structure on Y , then $c(\xi)$ vanishes.*

7 Ozsváth-Szabó invariant of positive stabilizations

In this section, we construct an isomorphism between homology of an open book (S, h) and that of the positive stabilization (S', h') which preserves Ozsváth-Szabó invariant.

Let (S, h) be an open book and (S', h') be its positive stabilization, i.e., S' is a surface obtained by attaching a 1-handle to S , and γ is a simple closed curve in S' which goes over the 1-handle once, and h' is a composition map $h' = t_\gamma \circ h$, where t_γ is the positive Dehn twist around γ .

For a contact 3-manifold (Y, ξ) and the compatible open book (S, h) , let ξ' denote the contact structure compatible with (S', h') , which is a positive stabilization of (S, h) . Then, it is a well-known fact that ξ and ξ' are isotopic. For a proof, see [4], for example.

We start the construction with taking a basis $\{a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n\}$ for S' as in section 6, i.e., a_0 is in the 1-handle, which intersects γ at only one point, and $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$ is a basis for S which is disjoint from γ . Then, by changing h , if we need, applying Theorem 4.6, we may assume that the diagram of (S, h) given by the basis $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$ is nice.

Deforming γ by isotopy in $S \setminus (\bigcup_{i=1}^n a_i)$, we minimize the number of intersection points between $S \cap \gamma$ and $h(b_1), h(b_2), \dots, h(b_n)$. We may assume that the intersection of $\gamma \cap S$ and a bigon or a square region R consists of arcs $\{A_i\}$ in R , whose endpoints are on the β -edges contained in $h(b_1) \cup \dots \cup h(b_n)$. If at least one of such arcs A_i has the endpoints on a common β -edge, we can choose A_i so that A_i and the β -edge bound a bigon whose interior disjoint from $\gamma \cap S$. Then deforming γ by isotopy, we can eliminate A_i . This contradicts the above minimality condition. It follows that $\gamma \cap S$ does not intersect a bigon, and intersects a square region in arcs, each of which connects the different β -edges of the region. Note that this deforming does not change the equivalence class of the original open book.

In the diagram of (S', h') given by the above basis, β_0 intersects the α -curves only at one point $c_0 = \alpha_0 \cap \beta_0$. So, the same argument as in the case of negative stabilization shows that only the pointed region has an edge contained in β_0 . In fact, in Figure 9 a region R_1 can be connected to the pointed region R_0 by an arc near β_0 and a region R_2 can be connected to R_0 similarly. Therefore, R_1 and R_2 coincide with the pointed region R_0 . Hence, non-pointed regions have their boundaries in $\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$ and $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_n$.

We prove that this diagram is nice. To see this, we take a non-pointed region R . If the boundary of R does not intersect α_0 , then R coincides with a region of diagram for (S, h) , which remains unchanged by the stabilization, so R is a bigon or a square.

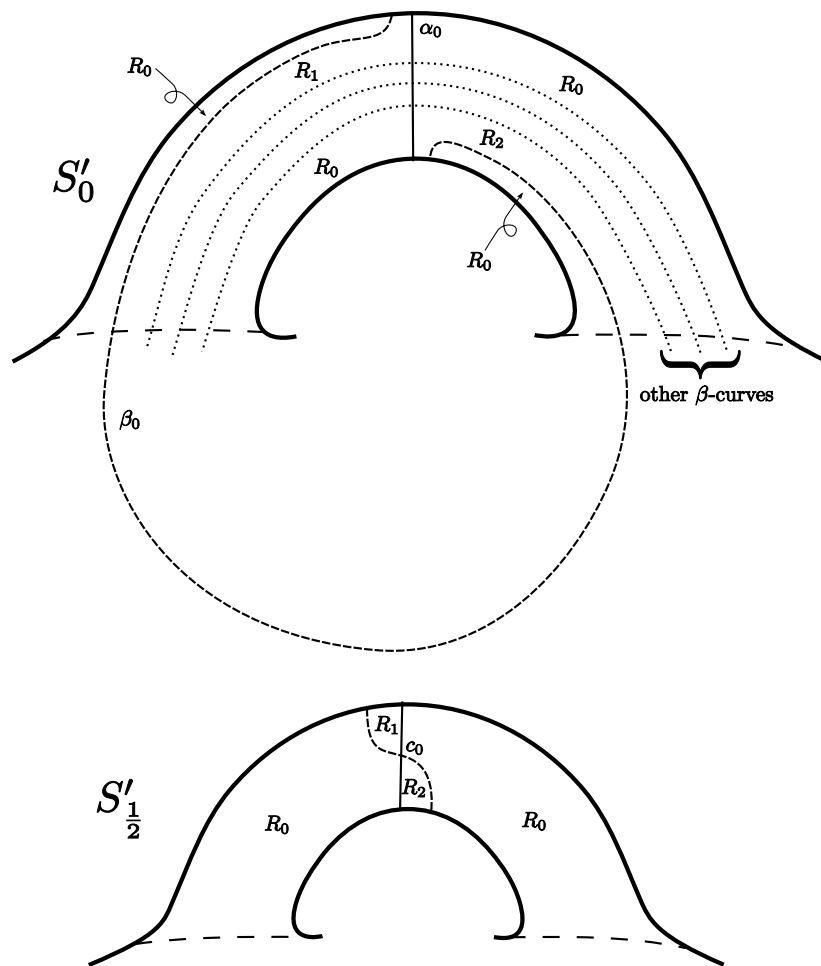


Figure 9: The situation around β_0 and the 1-handle of the positive stabilization.

On the other hand, if the boundary of R does intersect α_0 , then R is obtained from some region \tilde{R} of the diagram for (S, h) by Dehn twist around γ as in Figure 10. Hence, \tilde{R} is a square region which intersects γ . The stabilization changes the regions only around a tubular neighborhood of γ as in Figure 11. By the stabilization, each square region which intersects γ in the original diagram is twisted and is divided into several regions by α_0 . Therefore, the resulting new regions are still square regions.

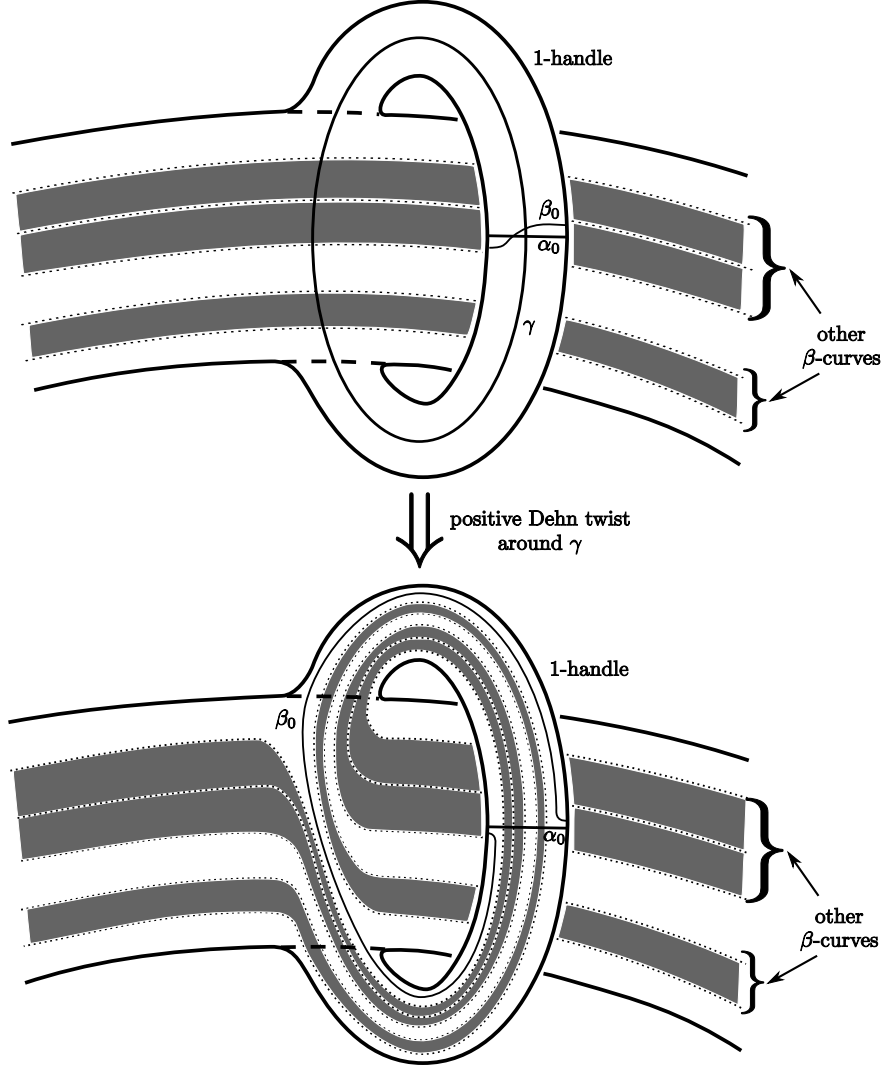


Figure 10: The correspondence between empty embedded bigons or squares.

Each generator \bar{x} of $\widehat{CF}(S', h')$ has the term c_0 , since β_0 intersects the α -

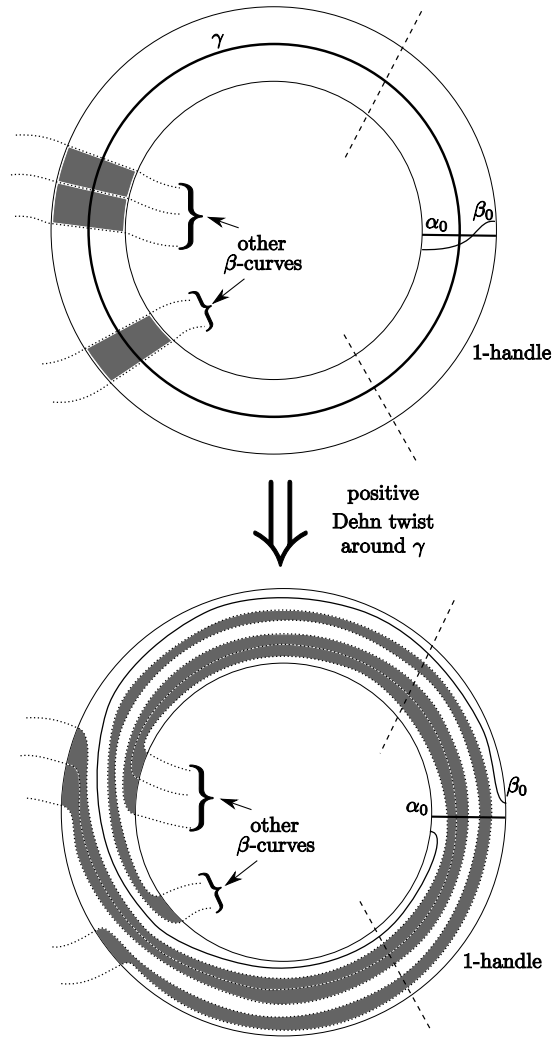


Figure 11: How positive stabilization changes curves and regions in the tubular neighborhood around γ .

curves only at c_0 , which is included in α_0 . The other terms of $\bar{\mathbf{x}}$ are intersection points between $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n$ and $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_n$. Therefore, we get a one-to-one correspondence between $\widehat{CF}(S, h)$ and $\widehat{CF}(S', h')$ by mapping a generator \mathbf{x} of $\widehat{CF}(S, h)$ to $\bar{\mathbf{x}} = c_0 + \mathbf{x}$.

Additionally, for an empty embedded bigon or square $\phi \in \pi_2^0(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ in the diagram for (S, h) , we assign to ϕ an empty embedded bigon or square $\bar{\phi} \in \pi_2^0(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, \bar{\mathbf{y}})$ which goes through the 1-handle as in Figure 10, if ϕ intersects γ in the diagram for (S, h) , and assign ϕ itself to $\bar{\phi}$, otherwise (note that ϕ remains unchanged by stabilization in the latter case). Then this correspondence is one-to-one between the empty embedded bigons or squares connecting \mathbf{x} to \mathbf{y} and the empty embedded bigons or squares connecting $\bar{\mathbf{x}}$ to $\bar{\mathbf{y}}$.

After all, we get the following theorem.

Theorem 7.1. *There exists an isomorphism i between $\widehat{CF}(S, h)$ and $\widehat{CF}(S', h')$ such that each generator \mathbf{x} is mapped to $\bar{\mathbf{x}} = c_0 + \mathbf{x}$.*

In addition, there is a one-to-one correspondence between the empty embedded bigons or squares connecting \mathbf{x} to \mathbf{y} and the empty embedded bigons or squares connecting $\bar{\mathbf{x}}$ to $\bar{\mathbf{y}}$, for all generators \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} of $\widehat{CF}(S, h)$.

Therefore, i is an isomorphism between the chain complexes, and the induced isomorphism $i_: \widehat{HF}(S, h) \rightarrow \widehat{HF}(S', h')$ satisfies $i_*(c(\xi)) = c(\xi')$.*

References

- [1] Yakov Eliashberg. Classification of overtwisted contact structures on 3-manifolds. *Inventiones mathematicae*, 98:623–637, 1989.
- [2] Tolga Etgü and Burak Ozbagci. On the contact Ozsváth-Szabó invariant, 2007. arXiv:math.GT/0708.2772.
- [3] Emmanuel Giroux. Géométrie de contact: de la dimension trois vers les dimensions supérieures. In *Proceedings of the International Congress of Mathematicians (Beijing 2002)*, volume 2, pages 405–414, 2002.
- [4] Noah Daniel Goodman. *Contact structures and open books*. PhD thesis, The University of Texas at Austin, 2003. University of Texas libraries digital repository, <http://hdl.handle.net/2152/609>.
- [5] Ko Honda, William H. Kazez, and Gordana Matić. On the contact class in Heegaard Floer homology, 2007. arXiv:math.GT/0609734.
- [6] Robert Lipshitz. A cylindrical reformulation of Heegaard Floer homology. *Geometry and Topology*, 10:955–1096, 2006.
- [7] Robert Lipshitz, Ciprian Manolescu, and Jiajun Wang. Combinatorial cobordism maps in hat Heegaard Floer theory. *Duke Mathematical Journal*, 145:207–247, 2008.

- [8] Peter Ozsváth and Zoltán Szabó. Holomorphic disks and topological invariants for closed three-manifolds. *Annals of Mathematics*, 159:1027–1158, 2004.
- [9] Peter Ozsváth and Zoltán Szabó. Heegaard Floer homology and contact structures. *Duke Mathematical Journal*, 129:39–61, 2005.
- [10] Peter Ozsváth and Zoltán Szabó. An introduction to Heegaard Floer homology. In *Floer Homology, Gauge Theory, and Low-dimensional Topology*, volume 5 of *Clay mathematics proceedings*, 2006.
- [11] Olga Plamenevskaya. A combinatorial description of the Heegaard Floer contact invariant. *Algebraic and Geometric Topology*, 7:1201–1209, 2007.
- [12] Sucharit Sarkar and Jiajun Wang. An algorithm for computing some Heegaard Floer homologies, 2008. arXiv:math.GT/0607777.